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MEDIA RELEASE

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**December 3,
2010**

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On December 11, 2010 at 7:30 a.m., the Westminster Police Department in conjunction with the Westminster Wal-Mart will be hosting the 7th Annual “Shop With A Cop” program. The “Shop With A Cop” program originated in 1978 as a way to give deserving children an opportunity to purchase Christmas gifts for their family members. The program also gives children the opportunity to meet and spend time with police officers in a positive and non-confrontational environment.

The “Shop With A Cop” celebration starts at the Westminster Wal-Mart located at 280 Woodward Road, Westminster, Maryland. The children selected will be teamed with a Police Department employee to pick out gifts for the holiday season. Wal-Mart will be providing gift cards in order for the children to purchase their holiday gifts. After the shopping is completed, everyone will return to the Westminster Senior Center where the gifts that were purchased will be wrapped. Following the gift wrapping, the Police Department will be hosting a holiday party from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Westminster Senior Center for all participating families to attend. During the holiday party a visit from Santa will take place.

Over 90 local businesses have made donations to support the “Shop With A Cop” program. The generous citizens of Carroll County also contributed by selecting gift ideas from the Angel Tree located at the Wal-Mart. Nearly 350 gifts were purchased from the gift suggestions on the Angel Tree. These gifts will be distributed to the children and their families.

Please contact Sgt. Keith Benfer, Community Education Section, at (410) 857-9282 with any questions.

WESTMINSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT
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